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To Whom it May Concern:

I just finished reading an article in the local newspaper about allowing the newest antihistamine medications, Allegra, Claritin, and Zyrtec, to be over the counter medications to prevent the medical insurance companies to have to pay for the medications.

I am appalled by this. Why do we pay such high premiums for the insurance if they don't want to pay for the necessary treatments and medications that go along with this. I feel that the drug companies should NOT be allowed to advertise on television or in magazines and let the doctors do the prescribing of medications. The high cost of medication is not due to research, but for advertising and if insurance companies don't want to pay for the medication, they should lobby against the drug companies advertising.

I was born with allergies and after 40+ years of treatment and several sinus operations, I have not found any antihistamine works as well as the advertisements claim. However, I should not be going into the doctor's office telling the doctor what I want. The doctor should be telling me what I should be doing.

We have lost control of the medical field by allowing insurance companies to dictate what we can take for medication, what treatment they will pay for and when we are allowed to have medical treatment. I do not think we need to let these medications or any other medication be allowed to be sold without a prescription just to satisfy the insurance company finances. I believe that if we stop allowing the drug companies to advertise, this would be the biggest help the insurance companies need.

Sincerely Concerned



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